GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1312
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2002
PATENT APPLICATIONS
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of patent applications received so far;

(b) the total number of preliminary examination reports issued so far;

(c) whether the Government's initiative to complement the changes in intellectual property laws with upgradation and modernisation of the administrative framework have begun to show initial results; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Dr. Raman Singh)

(a): During the period of last five years, that is , 1997-98 to 2001-2002 (up to January), the Patent Offices received 41,868 patent applications.

(b): The Patent Offices started the practice of issuing preliminary examination reports from October, 2000 and have issued 26,829 reports till January, 2002.

(c&d): Yes Sir. The Patent Offices which have been examining around 2800 applications per year examined 4264 applications in 2000-2001 and 4,257 applications in 2001-2002 (upto January). The average output of Patent Examiners has improved by more than 50%. Modernised Patent Offices which were operationalised in Delhi in July and in Chennai in August, 2001 have also started showing improvements in the examination of patent applications. The Delhi Patent Office is currently examining food, drug and medicine related patent applications filed in March, 2001 and the Chennai Office is examining applications filed in June, 2001.